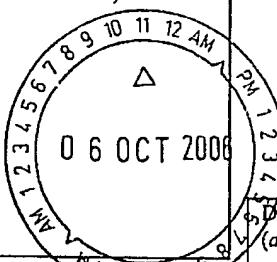


PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

To:
BOWMAN GILFILLAN INC. (JOHN & KERNICK)
165 WEST STREET
SANDTON
JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA



PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
REPORT ON PATENTABILITY
(Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Rule 71.1)

19 SEP 2006

Applicant's or agent's file reference

P15577PC00

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

International application No.	International filing date (day/month/year)	Priority date (day/month/year)
PCT/IB04/04060	10 December 2004 (10.12.2004)	10 December 2003 (10.12.2003)

Applicant

WATERLEAF LIMITED

1. The applicant is hereby notified that this International Preliminary Examining Authority transmits herewith the international preliminary report on patentability and its annexes, if any, established on the international application.
2. A copy of the report and its annexes, if any, is being transmitted to the International Bureau for communication to all the elected Offices.
3. Where required by any of the elected Offices, the International Bureau will prepare an English translation of the report (but not of any annexes) and will transmit such translation to those Offices.
4. **REMINDER**

The applicant must enter the national phase before each elected Office by performing certain acts (filing translations and paying national fees) within 30 months from the priority date (or later in some Offices)(Article 39(1))(see also the reminder sent by the International Bureau with Form PCT/IB/301).

Where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary report on patentability. It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned.

For further details on the applicable time limits and requirements of the elected Offices, see Volume II of the *PCT Applicant's Guide*.

The applicant's attention is drawn to Article 33(5), which provides that the criteria of novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability described in Article 33(2) to (4) merely serve the purposes of international preliminary examination and that "any Contracting State may apply additional or different criteria for the purposes of deciding whether, in that State, the claimed invention is patentable or not" (see also Article 27(5)). Such additional criteria may relate, for example, to exemptions from patentability, requirements for enabling disclosure, clarity and support for the claims.

Name and mailing address of the IPEA/ US

Mail Stop PCT, Attn: IPEA/US

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Facsimile No. (571) 273-3201

Authorized Officer

Xuan Thai

Telephone No. 703-308-1148

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PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY (Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty)

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference P15577PC00	FOR FURTHER ACTION		See Form PCT/IPEA/416
International application No. PCT/IB04/04060	International filing date (day/month/year) 10 December 2004 (10.12.2004)	Priority date (day/month/year) 10 December 2003 (10.12.2003)	
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC IPC: A63F 9/24 (2006.01) USPC: 463/19			
Applicant WATERLEAF LIMITED			

1. This report is the international preliminary examination report, established by this International Preliminary Examining Authority under Article 35 and transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.

2. This REPORT consists of a total of 1 sheets, including this cover sheet.

3. This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, comprising:

a. (sent to the applicant and to the International Bureau) a total of 2 sheets, as follows:

sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis of this report and/or sheets containing rectifications authorized by this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions).

sheets which supersede earlier sheets, but which this Authority considers contain an amendment that goes beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed, as indicated in item 4 of Box No. I and the Supplemental Box.

b. (sent to the International Bureau only) a total of (indicate type and number of electronic carrier(s)) _____, containing a sequence listing and/or tables related thereto, in electronic form only, as indicated in the Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing (see Section 802 of the Administrative Instructions).

4. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. I	Basis of the report
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. II	Priority
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. III	Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. IV	Lack of unity of invention
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VI	Certain documents cited
<input type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VII	Certain defects in the international application
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box No. VIII	Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 01 November 2005 (01.11.2005)	Date of completion of this report 21 August 2006 (21.08.2006)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/ US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: IPEA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450	
Facsimile No. (571) 273-3201	
Telephone No. 703-308-1148	

Authorized officer

Xuan Thai

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/IB04/04060

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on:

the international application in the language in which it was filed.

a translation of the international application into English, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:

- international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
- publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4(a))
- international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2(a) and/or 55.3(a))

2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on (*replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report*):

the international application as originally filed/furnished

the description:
pages 1-16 as originally filed/furnished
pages* NONE received by this Authority on _____
pages* NONE received by this Authority on _____

the claims:
pages 18,19 and 21-23 as originally filed/furnished
pages* NONE as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
pages* 17 and 20 received by this Authority on 01 November 2005 (01.11.2005)
pages* NONE received by this Authority on _____

the drawings:
pages 1/4-4/4 as originally filed/furnished
pages* NONE received by this Authority on _____
pages* NONE received by this Authority on _____

a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

the description, pages NONE

the claims, Nos. NONE

the drawings, sheets/figs NONE

the sequence listing (*specify*): NONE

any table(s) related to the sequence listing (*specify*): NONE

4. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

the description, pages _____

the claims, Nos. _____

the drawings, sheets/figs _____

the sequence listing (*specify*): _____

any table(s) related to the sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/IB04/04060

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims 1-37	YES
	Claims <u>NONE</u>	NO
Inventive Step (IS)	Claims <u>NONE</u>	YES
	Claims 1-37	NO
Industrial Applicability (IA)	Claims 1-37	YES
	Claims <u>NONE</u>	NO

2. Citations and Explanations (Rule 70.7)

Claims 1-37 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(4), and thus meet industrial applicability because the subject matter claimed can be made or used in industry.

Claims 1-37 lack an inventive step under PCT Article 33(3) as being obvious over Marnell, II (US 5,393,057) in view of Weingardt (US 2002/0113369).

The combination of these references disclose, teach, and suggest instrumentalities to perform the bingo-type game claimed herein. For instance, Marnell, II discloses, teaches and suggests a plurality of player stations, see Figure 1; a random event generator means, see (33) and (69) and Figure 4; a secondary display means therefor (23) and primary display means to simulate a different entertainment game tied to the bingo game, see (28) wherein in Marnell, II this game is poker.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.
PCT/IB04/04060

Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the question whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

The drawings are objected to under PCT Rule 66.2(a)(v) as lacking clarity under PCT Article 7 because: the drawings don't show the claimed features.

PCT/IB04/04060 01.1.2005

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Claims

1. A system for playing a bingo-type game, comprising:
 - 5 a plurality of player stations, each player station being operable by a respective player to place a wager on a turn of a game of bingo;
 - 10 a random event generator activatable to generate a number of random events upon which an outcome of the game of bingo is based, the outcome being either an unfavourable outcome in which the player forfeits the wager, and at least one favourable outcome in which the player wins a corresponding prize;
 - 15 a secondary display means instructable by the player station to display a simulation of the turn of the game of bingo; and
 - 20 a primary display means instructable by the player station to display to the player a simulation of a turn of a different entertainment game having an outcome that is unfavourable when the outcome of the turn of the game of bingo is an unfavourable outcome, the turn of the different entertainment game causing the player to win the same corresponding prize as the game of bingo when the outcome of the turn of the game of bingo is a favourable outcome.
2. A system as claimed in claim 1 in which the random event generator is executable in a gaming server remote from the plurality of player stations, the gaming server being communicable with each one of the plurality of remote player stations by means of a communication network.
- 25 3. A system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in which the different entertainment game is a game of video slots.
- 30 4. A system as claimed in either one of claims 1 or 2 in which the game of bingo has 75 uniquely numbered balls and in which a random event

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IPEA/US

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18. A system as claimed in claim 17 in which each one of the player stations activates its respective prize claiming means to be operable by a player to claim a favourable outcome arising from the occurrence of the last possible game-ending pattern.

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19. A system as claimed in claim 18 in which the gaming server terminates the turn of the game of bingo if a player claims the favourable outcome.

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20. A system as claimed in claim 19 in which the prize claiming means remains activated until a player claims the favourable outcome.

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21. A method of operation of a system for playing a bingo-type game, comprising the steps of:

enabling each one of a plurality of player stations for operation by a respective player to place a wager on a turn of a game of bingo;

activating a random event generator to generate a number of random events upon which an outcome of the game of bingo is based, the outcome being either an unfavourable outcome in which the player forfeits the wager, and at least one favourable outcome in which the player wins a corresponding prize;

displaying to the player on a secondary display means a simulation of a turn of the game of bingo; and

displaying to the player on a primary display means a simulation of a turn of a different entertainment game having an outcome that is unfavourable when the outcome of the turn of the game of bingo is an unfavourable outcome, the turn of the different entertainment game causing the player to win the same corresponding prize as the game of bingo when the outcome of the turn of the game of bingo is a favourable outcome.

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22. A method as claimed in claim 21 in which the random event generator is executed in a gaming server remote from the plurality of player stations

AMENDED SHEET

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